

Message Text

SECRET

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ORIGIN EUR-12

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-----026053 170154Z /72

O 170100Z JAN 78 ZFF4
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO USDEL SECRETARY IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY ANKARA
AMEMBASSY ATHENS
AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

S E C R E T STATE 011774 TOSEC 010014

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, TU, OVIP (VANCE, CYRUS)

SUBJECT: ANNOUNCEMENT OF ANKARA VISIT

1. DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN WILL MAKE FOLLOWING ANNOUNCEMENT
TUESDAY, JANUARY 17 A.M. ON SECRETARY'S VISIT TO ANKARA.

BEGIN TEXT: SECRETARY VANCE HAS ACCEPTED AN INVITATION
FROM THE TURKISH GOVERNMENT TO PAY VISIT TO ANKARA,
JANUARY 20-21. THE SECRETARY WILL MEET WITH PRIME MINISTER
BULENT ECEVIT AND FOREIGN MINISTER GUNDUZ OKCUN. THE
PURPOSE OF THE VISIT WILL BE TO DISCUSS GLOBAL TRENDS AND
DEVELOPMENTS AND TO REVIEW TURKISH-AMERICAN RELATIONS IN
THAT LIGHT. END TEXT.

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2. IN ANSWERING QUESTIONS, SPOKESMAN WILL USE GUIDANCE
PROVIDED PARA 3 BELOW. SHOULD ATHENS VISIT BE CONFIRMED
PRIOR TO TURKISH ANNOUNCEMENT, TWO ANNOUNCEMENTS WILL BE
MADE SIMULTANEOUSLY.

3. QUESTION: AT WHOSE INITIATIVE IS SECRETARY VISITING

TURKEY?

ANSWER: SECRETARY VANCE IS TAKING ADVANTAGE OF HIS PRESENCE IN THE AREA TO STOP OFF IN ANKARA AT THE INVITATION OF PRIME MINISTER ECEVIT.

QUESTION: WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THE VISIT?

ANSWER: THE PURPOSE OF THE VISIT WILL BE TO DISCUSS GLOBAL TRENDS AND DEVELOPMENTS AND TO REVIEW TURKISH-AMERICAN RELATIONS IN THAT LIGHT.

QUESTION: HOW DOES THE SECRETARY'S VISIT FIT IN WITH THE WALDHEIM VISIT?

ANSWER: SECRETARY'S VISIT IN NO WAY CONFLICTS OR COMPETES WITH U.N. EFFORTS TO FACILITATE THE SOLUTION OF EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN PROBLEMS. AS WE HAVE ALREADY SAID, THE PURPOSE OF THE VISIT AS A BROAD ONE, I.E., TO DISCUSS GLOBAL TRENDS WITH THE NEW TURKISH GOVERNMENT.

QUESTION: WHAT DO YOU EXPECT TO GET OUT OF THIS VISIT?

ANSWER: WE EXPECT A BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF EACH GOVERNMENT'S POSITION.

QUESTION: DO THE SECRETARY AND PRIME MINISTER ECEVIT KNOW EACH OTHER?

ANSWER: YES. THEY LAST MET IN LATE SUMMER OF 1976 DURING MR. ECEVIT'S TOUR OF THE UNITED STATES.

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QUESTION: WHAT ABOUT A STOP IN ATHENS?

ANSWER: I HAVE NOTHING ON THAT AT THIS TIME.

QUESTION: DOES THE SECRETARY'S TRIP TO ANKARA INDICATE SOME MAJOR NEW INITIATIVE IS UNDERWAY IN SETTLING THE DISPUTE OVER CYPRUS?

ANSWER: THERE IS NO AMERICAN "PLAN" FOR CYPRUS. SINCE THE SECRETARY WAS IN THE AREA, HE WISHED TO USE THE OCCASION TO DISCUSS THE GENERAL SITUATION IN THE EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN AREA WITH THE NEW TURKISH GOVERNMENT LED BY PRIME MINISTER ECEVIT.

4. TEXT SET FORTH PARA 1 ABOVE WILL ALSO BE RELEASED BY GOVERNMENT OF TURKEY AT NOON JANUARY 17, ANKARA TIME, CHRISTOPHER

SECRET

NNN

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